

## **Message from the Desk of the State Director**

Well here we are...week two of the new school year. I hope all is going well!

### **Here are some important reminders:**

- **Membership:** It is membership time! Please process your National and State Membership at <https://www.skillsusa.org/>. The Customer Care Service line is 844-875-4557 if you have any questions.
- **Friday Flash Updates:** If you need to be removed, or need advisors added to the mailing list, please contact [cnemerofsky@scvts.net](mailto:cnemerofsky@scvts.net) with any updates.
- **Fall Leadership Conference 10/25/23:** Due to limited seating at the facility, please try to limit your school to six people or less. See the registration form on our website for more information.
- **Technical Standards:** Standards are being updated and they will be available by **October 15th**.
- **WLTI:** Good luck to all students and advisors who are attending WLTI Sept 23-27th
- **Awards Ceremony:** The April 28th Awards Ceremony is on a Sunday, and will be starting with a Career Fair at 11 am. The awards to follow starting at 1 pm in the Cure arena in Trenton. Please encourage **all** to attend, as we will have plenty of room! If anyone knows any vendors or has ideas for booths at the career fair, please reach out to me asap.

*Ralph Starace*

## **Troubleshooting with Sheila!**

### **\*Important Change\***

This year, we are changing the way student lists will be added to our state registration website. Advisors should process their membership list as usual on the national website: [www.skillsusa.org](http://www.skillsusa.org) When it comes time to start registering your students for the state championships, we plan to upload your membership lists into our system. This means you will no longer need to spend time adding your list of competitors into the state registration system. You will list your members only once on the national membership site and the names you add to your membership list will be the names that you will find in your drop down list for state contest registration, Call Sheila if you have any questions: cell 908 917-8612

## **Free Upcoming Event-Tague Lumber's FREE Women in Construction Event**

Please share with anyone who may be interested:

Tague Lumber of Doylestown is hosting a FREE "Women in Construction Event." This event will feature amazing guest speakers, installation demos, giveaways, plus topics and insights specific to women in the Construction Industry. Checkout our YouTube video from the WIC even event we hosted at our Malvern Showroom in March (which was completely filled and had a wait list for tickets). Don't wait! Reserve your spot TODAY! <https://youtube.com/shorts/oPRXR1enVt8?feature=share>

- **WIC EVENT DATE:** Friday, October 13, 2023
- **TIME:** Doors open at 4:30pm; Presentations start at 5:00pm
- **LOCATION:** Tague Lumber of Doylestown, 6100 Easton Road, Plumsteadville, PA

### **Who should attend this event?**

- Everyone is welcome to join the fun, but we are hoping to reach women interested in the construction-related trades, building, architecture, civil engineering, project management, CAD/CAM, CNC, woodworking, all aspects of design, and all areas of trade-related support services. (PLUS teachers, mentors, trainers, etc.)
- If you know any young women who are interested in a career in the trades, this is a GREAT way for them to learn how to navigate their path in this traditionally male-dominated industry.

### **Are men welcome to attend?**

Yes, absolutely! Supportive men are our greatest allies — especially in the construction trades. We encourage our guests to bring anyone they think would enjoy the event including co-workers, spouse, or partners.

### **How to REGISTER for this event:**

- Click on this EventBrite LINK to register:  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/women-in-construction-event-bucks-county-tickets-7079284420>  
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### **News From Your National Office**

*(Please take advantage of some of these great opportunities for you and your students!)*

#### **Applications Open for Lowe's Grants for Construction Trades**

Lowe's is providing grants up to \$15,000 for SkillsUSA chapters in construction trades to upgrade classroom tools or equipment; purchase additional materials and supplies for students; or to obtain equipment, materials and supplies to conduct a community service project. These grants are for the construction cluster, including Cabinetmaking, Carpentry, Electrical Construction Wiring, Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (HVACR), Masonry, Plumbing, Sheet Metal, Welding and Architectural Drafting. All funds must be spent at Lowe's stores. Applications are open and must be submitted by Sept. 30. Successful applicants will be notified by Oct. 30 and projects must be completed by June 1, 2024. For questions, contact Laura Rauch.

#### **Elevate Registration is Open**

The SkillsUSA Elevate Chapter Officer Development Conference happens Oct. 11 from 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. ET. This virtual interactive experience for local chapter officer teams focuses on building successful chapters by equipping officers with the skills to lead and serve their members. Successful completion of this conference supports the quality of your local SkillsUSA programming and the individual growth of your members as it activates SkillsUSA's mission to empower members to become skilled professionals, career-ready leaders and responsible community members.

#### **Chapter Meeting and Recruitment Support**

Planning the first member recruitment meeting of the year can be daunting. Use our Chapter Leader Planning Guide to learn how your chapter leaders can successfully lead a first chapter meeting while also planning a local recruitment week to engage potential new SkillsUSA members. You'll also find advisor resources to help coach your chapter leaders around recruitment

and engaging potential new members.

### **Fall Professional Development Offerings**

Are you ready to take your SkillsUSA knowledge to the next level? SkillsUSA's Fall Professional Development offerings include new advisor training, Framework integration, the SkillsUSA Advantage report, local competition guide and more.

### **Supporting the Trades is in Fashion**

SkillsUSA partners Tractor Supply Company, the Tractor Supply Company Foundation and Carhartt have launched a new "Support the Trades" apparel collection to help advance skilled trades in the U.S. The Carhartt collection is sold exclusively at Tractor Supply in stores or online. The clothing line includes short-sleeved and long-sleeved shirts in several colors, plus three ball caps and two knit hats. For every item sold, a portion of the proceeds will be donated to SkillsUSA. Support the Trades first launched in 2021. Order your "Support the Trades" merchandise now and help spread the word by showcasing your attire on social media and tagging SkillsUSA! For more information, check out the new "Support the Trades" video.

### **The SkillsUSA Store — Deals and Steals**

With fall around the corner, there is no better time to stock up on some fantastic SkillsUSA logo items before they're gone. Check out the SkillsUSA Store Deals and Steals section for everything from light jackets to polos and tech items with savings of as much as 50-60% off. There is sure to be something for everyone.

### **The Early Professional Member Gets the Benefits**

The SkillsUSA registration site is officially open for the 2023-24 school year. We encourage advisors to join early so they receive all mailings and emails. Professional members receive many resources and benefits when they submit membership with a valid email address: The Framework Integration Toolkit ensures career readiness within your classroom, training program and chapter; the Program of Work Toolkit includes resources to help implement an effective and successful Program of Work; the "Jump into STEM!" curriculum provides an opportunity to engage elementary and middle school students in STEM learning; and the SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards are the official regulations for the SkillsUSA Championships career competitions. E-Courses and advisor professional development provide a variety of training options. National dues for professional members are \$20 plus state dues which vary. Visit the registration site and check for your state's dues and deadlines. Contact our Customer Care Team at 844-875-4557 if you have questions.

### **Share Your Champions**

The SkillsUSA Champions magazine staff is always looking for potential feature stories to share with SkillsUSA Nation. If you know of a SkillsUSA student, advisor, industry partner or graduate whose story would be motivating and inspirational, please submit the information through our online form.

